

Guidance for Reopening of Camping Activities

Greater Niagara Frontier Council

As of July 2, 2020

The Greater Niagara Frontier Council (GNFC) understands that our Scouting families want to get back out to camp as soon as possible. While we understand and agree with you, we also need to do this in as safely as possible. In this everchanging environment, it is essential to note that State and Regional guidelines will always take priority. **All recommendations and guidelines issued by any Government entity (CDC, State, County, Dept. of Health) will be considered as requirements, and not suggestions.** The safety of our Scouts, Leaders, Families, and Community is of paramount importance. Scouts have always been seen as leaders, and we will continue to set a good example for all. Failure to follow either Government or Council guidelines can result in the end of membership with the Scouting program.

Our 3 camp facilities will open beginning **July 10, 2020** for day activities and over-night camping! At this time the requirements set by the State only allow for over-night family camping. Unit camping is not allowed at this time. Reservations will be required for all activities at our camps, both day activities and over-night camping. We will continue to work with the State and our local health departments and update our policies accordingly. If you have not already read the GNFC Reopening Guidelines please [Click Here](#).

The Greater Niagara Frontier Council recommends the following requirements for all activities:

- Guide to Safe Scouting requirements always apply <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/toc/>
- Youth Protection Guidelines always apply (including mandatory 2 adults at all times) <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>
- In-person activities at camp:
 - All participants (Scouts, volunteers, and family members) must complete and submit the GNFC's **"COVID-19 Screening Form for All In-Person Meetings and Activities"** to the Camp Ranger when you check-in at camp. The forms must be completed each day of multi-day activities and must be maintained for at least 3 years
 - Activities must meet the New York State definition of Low-Risk Outdoor Arts and Entertainment or Low-Risk Indoor Arts and Entertainment Guidelines as issued by the state on June 24, 2020 <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-four-industries>
 - Follow all guidelines listed under the In-person Meetings/Activities section of [Guidance for Reopening of In-person Scouting Meetings and Activities](#)
 - Social distancing must be maintained
 - Masks must be worn at all times when within 6 feet of a non-household member
 - Please contact the Camping Secretary (Sara.Falsone@scouting.org or 716-512-6216) for complete details about using a camp and to make reservations

- The Camp Ranger will provide guidance on safety and disinfection requirements that must be followed by everyone in camp
- No group style cooking is allowed, all food must be prepackaged or brought by the individual/family, no sharing of utensils or cookware is allowed

Day Activities

- Units may hold day activities at our camps such as hiking, fishing or others
- Units will be charged \$2/day for each person plus a \$10 Sanitation fee

Over-night Camping

- **At this time only family camping is allowed**
- Only members of the same household may share a tent
- Campsites will be limited to 50% or less of normal capacity
- Families will be charged \$2/night for each person plus a \$25 Sanitation fee per site

Travel

- The CDC is strongly discouraging any travel not deemed essential. As a result, no Unit will be allowed to travel to a region/state that is closed.
- If possible only members of the same household should travel together.
- Masks must be worn by all occupants if traveling in mixed groups.

In a case where the circumstances create the need for clarification, the Committee Chair or Unit Leader will contact the Camping and Program Director to obtain that guidance. The Camping and Program Director's decision on these matters is binding and carries the same weight as these guidelines.

The health and well-being of our Scouts, their families, our communities, and the Scouting program is of the utmost importance to the Council. **Failure by any individual to follow these requirements will result in an immediate suspension from the Scouting program. Any leader who allows such behavior to occur will be immediately suspended from the Scouting program.**

Notification

The Council is working to create a plan for safe and fun programs under these stressful times. However, no matter the best laid plans, it is likely that someone may become ill. When anyone at an event becomes ill, they are to be immediately isolated from the group and sent home.

As soon as possible, the adult leader of the event MUST contact the Ranger and provide the following information:

- Who became ill (name and contact information)
- Reason they were at the event/activity (i.e. Scout, Leader, Parent, Sibling)
- Symptoms and when they developed
- How were they isolated
- Name and contact information for all people present and who may have had contact (less than 6 ft)
- What was the nature of the event?